Rule, 1955 every package of food shall carry a label indicating the name of ingredients used in the product in descending order of their composition by weight or volume as the case may be.

At present, there is no proposal under consideration for displaying limit of pesticides on the label of food items under PFA Rules, 1955.

Sugar prices

500. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN:
SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY:
SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV:
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retail sugar prices have recorded a steep rise from Rs. 17.00 to Rs. 22.00 a Kg. in the recent months;

(b) if so, the details and the reasons therefor and steps being taken to stabilise the prices at the earliest;

(c) whether Government have recently permitted a UK based multi-national SUCDEN to buy and sell sugar in bulk in Indian domestic market and to import raw sugar for re-export after value addition; and

(d) if so, whether such a step would tend to destabilise the Indian domestic market at retail level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) In early January, 2005, the retail prices of sugar in the four principal markets were in the range of Rs. 19.00 to Rs. 21.00 per Kg. This increase in sugar prices had been on account of unwarranted speculation as well as holding back of the released quota by some sugar mills. Government announced enhancement in non-levy sugar quota by 4 lakh M.Ts, increase in the period of fulfillment of export obligation in case of raw sugar imports under Advance License from 24 months to 36 months and conversion of unsold non-levy sugar quota by sugar mills

into levy sugar. The prices have thereafter shown declining trend in the month of February, 2005.

(c) M/s SUCDEN India Pvt. Ltd., a 100 per cent wholly-owned subsidiary unit of M/s Sucres ET Denres SA of France, has been granted permission for trading of sugar by the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

(d) No, Sir.

Committee for New Consumer Policy

501. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the department of Consumer Affairs has constituted a Committee for formulating the New Consumer Policy;

(b) if so, how many members are there in this panel;

(c) whether any time-frame has been set for submission of the recommendations;

(d) if so, by what time the committee is likely to submit its report; and

(e) the main objectives which will form part of the New Consumer Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of Principal Secretary, Co-operation, Food and Consumer Protection, Government of Tamil Nadu and consists of 9 members consisting of Secretary in charge of Consumer Affairs in State Governments of Jammu and Kashmir, Tripura, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and representatives of Voluntary Consumer Organisations etc.